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Letter dated 1 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw to your attention the statement on Angola issued on 28 February 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Inocencio F. **Arias**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 1 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement on Angola issued on 28 February 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union, having learned of the recent death of Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, leader of the military wing of UNITA, reaffirms the urgent need to put an end to the long-standing internal conflict that is causing a very severe humanitarian situation in the country.

It is the strong conviction of the European Union that the end of the Angolan conflict can only be achieved through an effective engagement of all in peace and national reconciliation, on the basis of the Lusaka Protocol. In this context, the European Union calls for a rapid cessation of hostilities and urges all Angolans to find a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict in order to promote the democratic, social and economic development of the country. The European Union welcomes hereby the important role of civil society in finding lasting peace in the country.

The European Union takes note of the Government's engagement to fully implement the Lusaka Protocol, welcomes the positive signals from the Government of Angola to date and looks forward to the early publication of the announced detailed programme leading to a definitive end to all the hostilities in Angola.

The European Union would also welcome the immediate adoption of concrete measures to address the existing humanitarian situation in Angola, in particular in those parts of the country where military activities have been continuing so far.

The European Union supports and encourages the United Nations in promoting the peace process.

The European Union wishes that the conditions may be created for the Government's commitment to hold free and fair general elections to be fulfilled, effectively reinforcing the democratic process in Angola.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.